

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method comprising:
2 receiving a request for a portion of a file system by a client;
3 identifying whether the portion is stored in a first location
4 associated with portions of the file system that have been previously stored by
5 the client; and
6 if not, determining whether the portion is stored in a second
7 location associated with portions of the file system that were streamed to the
8 client by a server.

1 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising retrieving the portion
2 from the server if not stored in the second location.

1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein identifying further comprises
2 associating portions of the file system used by the client during start-up with the
3 first location.

1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein determining further comprises
2 associating the second location with portions of the file system that were
3 streamed to the client using a multicast operation.

1 5. The method of claim 3, wherein associating further comprises:
2 monitoring accesses to a plurality of portions of the file system
3 during start-up;
4 retrieving the plurality of portions from the file system; and

5 storing the plurality of portions in the first location.

1 6. The method of claim 4, wherein associating further comprises:
2 retrieving a plurality of portions from the file system using
3 multicasting; and
4 storing the plurality of portions in the second location.

1 7. The method of claim 1, further comprising waiting for the portion
2 to be streamed to the client if not stored in the second location.

1 8. A system including:
2 a processor;
3 a storage medium including a software program that, upon
4 execution:
5 scans a first location associated with portions of a file system
6 that have been previously stored by the system; and
7 scans a second location associated with portions of the file
8 system that have been streamed to the system by a server.

1 9. The system of claim 8, wherein the first location is a non-volatile
2 storage medium.

1 10. The system of claim 9, wherein the non-volatile storage medium is
2 a flash memory device.

1 11. The system of claim 8, wherein the second location is a volatile
2 storage medium.

1 12. The system of claim 11, wherein the volatile storage medium is a
2 memory device.

1 13. The system of claim 9, wherein the first location comprises portions
2 of the file system used by the client at start-up.

1 14. The system of claim 9, wherein the second location comprises
2 portions of the file system retrieved using a multicast operation.

1 15. The system of claim 9, wherein the software program, upon
2 execution, retrieves the portion from the server if not stored in the second
3 location.

1 16. The system of claim 14, wherein the contents of the second
2 location are procured as a background operation.

1 17. An article comprising a medium storing instructions that cause a
2 processor-based system to:
3 receive a request for a portion of a file system by the processor-
4 based system;

1 22. The article of claim 17, further storing instructions that cause the
2 processor-based system to determine the contents of the first location by
3 monitoring access of the file system during a predetermined time period.

1 23. The article of claim 22, wherein the instructions that cause the
2 processor-based system to determine the contents of the first location by
3 monitoring access of the file system during a predetermined time period are
4 executed once.

1 24. The article of claim 17, further storing instructions that cause the
2 processor-based system to:
3 determine whether the portion will be stored in the second location
4 within an allotted time period; and
5 retrieve the portion from a server if not stored in the second
6 location within the allotted time period.